

TEAM SHOWS CLASS WITH LITTLE WORK

Infield Is Going at Mid-season Gait in Early Games.

CRITIC PICKS CLUB FOR FIFTH PLACE

Wonderful Strides With But Brief Training Foundation for Choice.

GALVESTON, Tex., March 18.—Without unduly endorsing the Washington club this season is showing better form than it has done in five years and more.

The class the team is showing in the field, with the excellent work of the pitchers is a great comfort. The present infield, with Unglaub on second, Denny on first, and the rest of the team, all of its members, McBride included, are proving they have an eye for the ball in batting as well as in the field. The smoothness with which plays were run off in beating Galveston yesterday was a credit to the team who have had little work on a diamond, but have confined themselves mostly to fungo hitting because the Galveston park was being improved.

Players Show Form.

Conroy was much steadier than the day before, and Unglaub fills the hole at second in satisfactory fashion. Jerry Freeman is at least twice as active as he was last spring. He should start the season well, instead of requiring a couple of months to work out the raw edges of his minor league ways.

This is not hot air on our part, but a statement of fact. Washington will finish in the cellar, but its work at present does not justify such a prediction. The top spots of the second division still looks a safe and sane ambition, with good chances for being accomplished.

Gray is going to be a big league fixture unless he develops weaknesses not yet apparent. He is a southpaw of speed and has had little baseball head. Likewise, it seems he is no slouch with the stick. Some of the old-timers say he works remarkably like Case Patten when Case was in his prime, and he does remind you of that willing worker.

Groom Still Uncertain.

Groom has not steadied himself as rapidly as the other pitchers, and it is more difficult to get a line on him, but he has shown to much to be lightly discarded. He has the earmarks of a good fielding pitcher, although he seems to move with a rather careless air.

In both the Galveston games he has never failed to accept the work of his position, and there is no doubt of his past performance as he is always on the job. The same three pitchers will be worked this afternoon unless the blow Johnson received on the shins yesterday with a pitched ball keeps him out. His leg is extremely sore and the bruise has an angry and threatening look.

CORBETT REPEATS PRESS AGENT GAG

Again Chestily Challenges Bruisers in the World at Large.

WHEELING, W. Va., March 18.—James J. Corbett, believes he is as good as ever and can defeat either Jack Johnson or James Jeffries.

The former heavyweight champion has issued a challenge to both men to box him any number of rounds and says he will put up a forfeit to bind the match.

SPORTING GOSSIP.

Lehigh's lacrosse candidates have started work.

Ban Johnson says there is no room for "Cy" Seymour in the American League.

Colpitts, the ex-Cornell long-distance runner, is a new entrant in the Atlantic City Marathon.

Edward Stewart, the Purdue University coach, has become athletic director of Allegheny College.

The Middle States interscholastic gymnastic championships will be held tomorrow evening in the University of Pennsylvania gymnasium.

There will be an added attraction at Penn's relay races, April 24, in the form of a freshman relay race between Princeton and Pennsylvania.

The Athletic Association of Washington and Lee University has secured the services of T. Newell Pickett, Princeton, '08, as coach of football for the coming season.

It is possible that Jim Delehanty, the clever second sacker of the Washington team, who is having trouble with the Nationals over his salary question, may coach the baseball candidates at Reserve squad, of Cleveland.

"King" Cole may fail to secure reelection as head coach of the Nebraska football team through his default in not complying with the request of the athletic board that he should state definitely within a week whether he would accept the position for another season. Cole is delaying until it is decided who will be coach of the Michigan eleven.

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PLAN A PROGRAM FOR GUARD MEET

Soldiers Invade Vaudeville and Prize Ring for Added Attractions.

IN WAY OF NOVELTY THE NATIONAL GUARD

Indoor games, which will be pulled off in the guard gymnasium on March 27, should have a big margin on other performances seen in Washington this season.

Besides a classy entry list the management of the meet has arranged many special attractions.

These features will be introduced between various athletic competitions. The Del Ray Brothers, acrobats, and Atkinson and Buell, sharp-shooting experts, are two of the added attractions. As both acts have been borrowed from vaudeville, the performances should be of a high standard.

By special permission of the A. A. U. Joe Turner, professional, and Frank Lockwood the District's amateur champ, will meet in a special wrestling bout.

These men are probably the best in the South and a lively match is expected. Fight enthusiasts will be treated to a mild exhibition by the local baseball organization, and all of its members, McBride included, are proving they have an eye for the ball in batting as well as in the field.

This is the first time that a program of this nature has been introduced at indoor games here and from present indications a record-breaking attendance will be on hand to see the show.

BOWLING PROGRAM BEST OF TOURNEY

International Championships Will Be Decided on Pittsburgh Alleys Today.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., March 18.—Today's program at the American Bowling Congress is one of the best of the meeting. The doubles being the attraction, it would seem better to allow Street an occasional rest when he shows signs of going stale. This would not only help Street, but it would benefit Blankenship, who is not going to become a world beater, either as a catcher or batter if he keeps on the bench too much.

Blankenship is a fair stickler, can be used in most any place if the occasion demands, therefore a fair allowance of active duty would help his eye and brace him up all around.

Walter Johnson's speed is the marvel of the Texas Leaguers of Galveston. The Washington club brings only twenty men. If twenty-eight men come to represent the Washington club it will be necessary to allow a fair club to provide four additional players. It is expected that the local players will get out their strongest combination for this match, and a victory is expected.

Another attraction is the six teams of ladies who will have the alleys during the afternoon. The Cleveland and Youngstown sharpshooters will appear on the alleys today and in the evening the five-men teams will go after the high scores.

ATTELL AND KLINE WILL MEET TONIGHT

Champion and Rugged Jersey Scraper Box Ten Rounds in Gotham.

NEW YORK, March 18.—Abe Attell, the featherweight champion, will meet Patey Kline, the rugged Jersey fighter, in a ten-round contest tonight.

Attell, a recent fighter, has put him on edge for the bout, and Kline, always a willing youngster, will try to cut the work for the Californian.

LIBBY IS SELECTED CARLISLE CAPTAIN

Famous Halfback Will Lead Indians on Gridiron Next Season.

CARLISLE, Pa., March 18.—Joseph Libby, who has played in the back field of the Carlisle eleven, has been elected football captain for 1909.

Captain Libby is a brother of the former star, Archie Libby, who left Carlisle two years ago. He is always and weighs 155. He is not quite five feet ten, and is twenty-two.

Libby, Minn., and comes from Libby, Minn.

"DRY" SPELL AGAIN STRIKES GRAFTON

GRAFTON, W. Va., March 18.—Grafton today, for the first time in the past two years, knows how it feels to face a coming "dry" spell which can not now be averted.

Because the saloon men were not very active the recent election went to the "drys" by sixty-six majority. The license in West Virginia has been raised to \$1,000 and to this fact the result of the election is no doubt due.

PIEDMONT'S CHALLENGE.

The Piedmont White Sox under the management of William Boxley are out with open challenge to all fast amateurs in the District.

The following players are out for positions: Campbell, Pondexter, Ford, Brady, Epps, Stevenson, Sims, Jones, Ross, Ray, Porter, Scott, Barbour, Matthews, Tolliver, Davis. All uniformed teams wanting games, write to John Rose, captain, 46 Ridge street northwest.

SPORTING EDITOR IS PEEVED OVER MANY ADVERSE BUMPS

Prohibitionists, Politicians, and Weather Combine in Vicious Attack on Ardent Laborer—Unglaub, the Merry One—Johnson's Twirling Takes Precedent Over Texas Politics in Galveston.

DAILY LETTERS TO WASHINGTON FANS—No. 10

Galveston, March 18. Dear Fanatics: If you think it is an unqualified snap to travel with a ball club in a wet spring you have another thing coming.

Galveston is a seaport town, surrounded by water and prohibitionists, who join forces to make it about the dreariest place in Texas when things are not going right. When all the reformers are at the Legislature getting their pet bills aimed at their private enemies or their own political preferment, and the sun shines, Galveston is all to the merry. This year so many true reformers have been caught with the goods that many of them have left the State capital and have flocked to Galveston, where they arrived with the continuous-performance northern that has been hanging over the South for the past ten days. The combination is fierce and you can hardly blame Cantillon if he tries his luck in Hickman, Ky., next year.

About the only man in the Washington squad who would not get into a fight with a pile driver.

Cantillon is still determined to make Charley Street catch every game he possibly can this summer, but it is a question whether this excessive working will be wise. It is undoubtedly a fact that Street caught a cold in his last game and at times was not in proper condition to do his best. The strain on him in some of the double-headers in July and August was hard, for he was not in perfect health, but the manager insisted upon using him. This year, with a fast, lively man like Blankenship in reserve, it would seem better to allow Street an occasional rest when he shows signs of going stale. This would not only help Street, but it would benefit Blankenship, who is not going to become a world beater, either as a catcher or batter if he keeps on the bench too much.

Blankenship is a fair stickler, can be used in most any place if the occasion demands, therefore a fair allowance of active duty would help his eye and brace him up all around.

Walter Johnson's speed is the marvel of the Texas Leaguers of Galveston.

BIG BRIDGE MATCH FOR LOCAL SHARPS

Washington Team Plays Last Contest With Baltimore on Saturday.

BALTIMORE, Md., March 18.—The last intercity bridge match will take place between the Baltimore Whist Club and the Washington Chess, Checkers and Whist Club Saturday at the Garage.

An eighteen-man team has been selected to represent the local club, provided the Washington club brings only twenty men. If twenty-eight men come to represent the Washington club it will be necessary to allow a fair club to provide four additional players. It is expected that the local players will get out their strongest combination for this match, and a victory is expected.

BOSTON AUTHORITIES START BIG CRUSADE

Arrest of Kid Beebe Seriously Threatens Boxing Game There.

BOSTON, Mass., March 18.—The first move against boxing in Boston for many months has been made in the arrest of "Kid" Beebe, of Philadelphia, who was taken into custody by the South Boston police.

Beebe is charged with assault and battery on "Willie" Riley, of South Boston, in the course of a ten-round exhibition boxing match at the Faneuil Hall Athletic Association Monday night.

MINNESOTA HOUSE PASSES FIGHT BILL

ST. PAUL, Minn., March 18.—A bill has been passed in the House allowing the councils of the cities of St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Duluth to permit limited boxing matches.

A bill allowing baseball games on Sunday between 1 and 6 o'clock in the afternoon, if conducted in a quiet manner, was introduced.

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On the few days the Washington squad has been able to practice, Jack Warner's henchmen have been out and watched with open mouths as the Washington club, with its straight bat and curve, for he is not yet using curves. He has as much force in his pitching as he has in his batting, and is also displaying excellent control. Consistency has always been Walter's strong point, and he promises to be consistently better in 1909 than he has ever been.

Speaking of the development of Freeman as a first baseman reminds us that one of the best men in the game today on the initial sack had an even more doleful beginning than Jerry. This was Jiggs Donohue, of the White Sox.

Donohue formerly played for Joe Cantillon in Milwaukee, when Cantillon managed that team. How Cantillon got the idea that Donohue would ever make a first baseman is not clearly explained, but certain it is that Donohue's antics, when he began, were ludicrous. Jiggs was well aware of his own shortcomings, and finally, while in Atlanta on a training trip, threw down his glove one day and announced that he was done with trying to make good on that corner. It required all of Cantillon's powers of threatening and soft-soaping combined to make Donohue go back on the job, but he finally did, and today he is a wonder in the position.

Don't by any means get the impression that my story about the possibility of Joe Cantillon giving up his Washington berth next year to manage the Minneapolis team, while Brother Mike looks after the coal mine in Wyoming, is a joke. When the major magnates were in session in Chicago recently President Noyes of the Washington club asked Cantillon whether he had thought of renewing his contract, which expires this year, and Joe replied that he had not. He also mentioned that Jimmy Collins was getting almost as much to handle Minneapolis this season as Cantillon will get in the Capital, and there matters seem to have rested. His degree of success with the excellent material he has this year will probably have a large amount to do with the manager's future plans. If he should happen to force his way into the first division, or even to the top of the second division, it is not likely that a dozen coal mines would keep him away from Washington next season, and a couple of more after that.

Bob Groom had just begun to let himself out when the rainy spell hit Galveston. He looks the real thing in every way, and in both him and Gray Cantillon seems to have drawn another pair of capital prizes in the baseball lottery. Groom does not round into shape as fast as some of the other pitchers, although he is still a mere youngster, and his best results will probably be achieved when "warm weather is the regular program. Groom has lots of confidence in himself, but is not cheery. He has studied pitching as a business, and has practiced hard in the finer points of the job. He finds bunts well, and practices that difficult art as faithfully as any professional prohibitionist thinking up new adjectives to hurl at the Demon Rum. Considering that he is six feet two inches tall and slimly built, he gets after the little hits with surprising agility. This goes big with Cantillon, who has little use for a slacker who cannot field his position.

Bob Unglaub swears he would not play on the outer gardens, and he will have to have a place on the diamond or on the bench. Wild Conroy, on the other hand, does not object to the suburbs, and would just as lief go there as remain at third base. Incidentally, Conroy predicts he will have a better year with the stick than he did last season, when he had a decided slump. He may be right, for a change of clubs often has a marked effect upon hitting.

Ottie Pickering was showing much of his old-time slugging and speed before he left for Waco with the Yankees. He attributes his fall down last season to the wallop he got in the head from a pitched ball in New York, which nearly caved in his skull. He should be successful with Minneapolis, but will not be especially happy there. He says he

BABY DEFEATED BY SAM LANGFORD

Colored Scrapper Has All the Better of Past Six Round Mill.

PHILADELPHIA, March 18.—Sam Langford, the colored middleweight, defeated Jim Barry at the Washington Sporting Club last evening before a big crowd in one of the most exciting and sensational boxing bouts that has been seen in this city in a long time.

There did not appear to be much difference in the men, Barry having a slight advantage in weight and height, but his lack of condition overbalanced this. The fight was a hard one, with Barry getting a slight attack of malaria fever and he had not been able to get into shape for the bout.

Langford appeared to be in almost perfect shape, and was as quick as a cat in his movements about the ring, and his blows came with terrific force. He used a left hook to the head and face to good advantage, and kept slugging his right to Barry's kidneys at every opportunity in order to get the white man to uncover his jaw.

SYRACUSE OARSMEN TO RACE AT HOME

Collegiate Champions to Satisfy Request of Home-Town Sports.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., March 18.—The University of Syracuse "varsity" eight-oared crew will probably row the crack Argonaut eight of Toronto on Lake Ontario Saturday, May 29, a week after Syracuse's race with the navy at Annapolis.

The race is being arranged by Sam Cook, graduate manager of athletics, to meet a popular demand on the part of Syracuse citizens to see last year's collegiate championship crew row on home waters.

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GOUGHAM TUREMEN WORRY OVER BILL

Agnew-Hart Anti-Racetrack Law a Menace, Reports Committee.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 18.—That the Agnew-Hart anti-race track gambling law enacted last year, if it remains in force, "will seriously cripple, if not absolutely destroy, thoroughbred racing of high class in this State," is the fear expressed by the State Racing Commission in its annual report submitted to the Legislature.

The commission, which is composed of James W. Wadsworth, John Sanford and H. K. Knapp, further states that "it cannot refrain from expressing its sincere regret at the enactment of the law of 1908."

GARRETT PARK CLUB HAS STRONG TEAM

New Material Promises to Give Suburbanites the County Championship.

GARRETT PARK, Md., March 18.—Garrett Park will have the strongest team this season that has ever represented it on the diamond and one that can cope with any in the county.

An abundance of excellent material has already reported and with the addition of several members of the high school league who will join the team here at the conclusion of the scholastic season it is a certainty that a successful campaign will result. In the box the locals are doubly strong. Granville Dixon, the young twirling phenom who graduated from local ranks several seasons ago, going to the Columbus (Ohio) team, will again toe the rubber for the Garrett Park aggregation as will also Joe Offutt, who is one of the most promising pitching candidates at the Technical High School.

Kelly, Defandorf, and C. Offutt are other high school players who will don Garrett Park uniforms at the conclusion of the scholastic season.

BAN JOHNSON SAYS SEYMOUR IS BARRED

Will Not Be Permitted to Play in American League

CHICAGO, March 18.—Ban E. Johnson, president of the American League of Baseball Clubs, is quoted as saying the action of Seymour, who was disciplined by the manager of the Giants for knocking down Arlie Latham last week, bars him from ever playing in the American League.

WASHINGTON CREW IS COMING EAST

Will Race at Poughkeepsie If It Lands Western Championship.

SEATTLE, Wash., March 18.—Coach H. B. Combs, of the University of Washington varsity crew, has announced that the Washington crew, in case it again wins the Pacific coast championship from the Stanford and California crews, will probably row in the intercollegiate regatta at Poughkeepsie next June, the funds for that purpose already being in sight.

For the past three seasons it has been announced in the East that the Washington crewmen would row on the Hudson, but this is the first time that any really definite move in that direction has been made.

AMERICUS DEFEATS FOREIGN CHAMPION

Bob Monogoff Proves No Match for Clever Baltimore Wrestler.

SCORES TWO FALLS IN EASY FASHION

Winner Keeps Stronger Opponent on Defensive Throughout the Contest.

BALTIMORE, Md., March 18.—Americus (Gus Schoenlein) is today light heavyweight champion of the world. He earned the title by defeating Bob Monogoff, of Asla, in their match at Albaugh's theater here last night. Monogoff being the holder of the title in Europe, while before the match Americus was the holder of the American title.

It was in two straight falls that Americus scored his victory over the foreigner, who, although he displayed the form of a great wrestler, was quite easy for the local gladiator.

The match was at catch-as-catch-can style, best two in three falls. Americus gained the first fall in sixteen and a half minutes and the second in twelve and a half minutes.

OFFERS FOR FIGHT STILL POURING IN

Omaha Is Latest Bidder for Jeffries-Johnson Scrap.

A report has come from Omaha that details for arranging a fight between Jim Jeffries and Jack Johnson are now under way. The fight, according to the rumor, is to take place at Omaha for a purse of \$100,000.

It seems that a bill is being engineered through the Legislature to permit boxing in Nebraska, while Corbett and Brady, two well-known promoters of the Pacific coast, are attending to the contract end of the proposed bout.

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